# Memorandum

To: Honorable Betty T. Yee, Chair

Honorable Jerome E. Horton, Vice Chair Senator George Runner, Second District

Honorable Michelle Steel, Member, Third District

Honorable John Chiang, State Controller

Date: January 14, 2011

From:

Anita Gore, Deputy Director External Affairs Department

Subject:

2011 Calendar Year Outreach Event Plan

Attached for your reference is the Board of Equalization (BOE) Outreach Event Plan for calendar year 2011. In addition, to a list of events, the plan includes:

- 2011 Online Seminar Projects
- Summary of 2010 Events and Online Seminar Statistics

As shown on the attached plan, the BOE will sponsor or participate in:

- 60 Small Business Seminars
- 10 Nonprofit Seminars
- 3 VITA Seminars
- 11 E-Services Seminars
- 15 Statewide Small Business Events
- 10 AB71 Cigarette Tax Classes
- 100 Speaker's Bureau Requests
- 289 Basic Sales and Use Tax and Return Preparation District Office Classes

The Outreach Division is working to finalize specific dates, times and venues and will be working closely with Board Member staff to ensure another successful seminar season. If you have any questions or would like to make any changes to the event schedule, please contact Ms. Kari Hammond at (916) 324-2507.

KKH:kh

Attachments

Ms. Kristine Cazadd cc:

Mr. Alan LoFaso

Ms. Regina Evans Mr. Sean Wallentine

Mr. Louis Barnett

Ms. Marcy Jo Mandel Ms. Anita Gore

Mr. David Gau

Mr. Jeff McGuire

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# State Board of Equalization

# Outreach Services Division – 2011 Outreach Plan

Overview, 2011 List of Events & 2010 Event Summary

## Overview-Calendar Year 2011 Outreach Plan

In 2011 the State Board of Equalization (BOE) will participate in or sponsor 476 events/speaking engagements/classes.

- 60 BOE sponsored seminars/events
- 10 State Controller Office seminars
- 10 AB71 Cigarette Tax classes
- 7 TRA Outreach events
- 100 Speaker's Bureau requests (includes 15 statewide events)
- 289 Sales and Use Tax and Return Preparation classes

The Outreach Services Division (OSD) will coordinate 180 of the BOE sponsored events/speaking engagements/classes.

- 35 Small Business seminars
- 10 Nonprofit seminars
- 10 State Controller Office(SCO) Business and Nonprofit seminars
- 3 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) seminars
- 1 Career Symposium
- 11 E-services seminars
- 10 AB71 Cigarette Tax classes
- 100 speaker bureau requests

The estimated average BOE cost per BOE sponsored event in 2011 is \$3,735 which includes \$450 for travel, \$1,785 for postage, soft-costs for in-house printing and staff resources from the BOE tax programs. No venue costs are planned for 2011.

Since 2009, OSD has reduced events costs by 51 percent by eliminating venue and equipment rentals, and reducing postage and travel. Travel costs have been reduced by 50 percent by scheduling events more efficiently and reducing the number of staff who travel (2-3 events per week versus 1 per week, 1 staff person/per event).

In addition to event expenditures savings, OSD has streamlined event planning processes, and will coordinate 30 percent more events/requests with 50 percent less staff. In-person seminar staff was reduced in 2009 when OSD redirected 1 manager and 3 analyst positions to staff the new BOE online seminars and web-based educational tools workload.

The Basic Sales and Use Tax and Return Preparation classes are sponsored and coordinated by the Sales and Use Tax Department. The Taxpayers' Rights Advocate is independent of the External Affairs Department, Outreach Services Division and coordinates and plans TRA participation at events, speaking engagements and classes.

## **Online Seminars and Web-based Educational Tools**

In addition to in-person seminars and speaker's bureau engagements, taxpayers can access the same training/presentations online on the BOE website. In 2009, OSD launched online seminar web pages that include all the presentations and resource links now available at in-person seminars.

In 2010 the online seminars received 394,656 visits.

Business Seminars: 28,104
Nonprofit Seminars: 10,110
AB71 Cigarette Class: 1,637
Efile Tutorial: 354,805

In 2011 OSD will add the following online educational tools to the BOE website.

- Mandarin and Korean Sales and Use Tax Seminars
- How to Open a Seller's Permit Video
- Filing an Organizational Clearance Video
- Time Value of Money
- Resale Certificate
- Purchases from Out-of-State
- CROS Tutorial
- Appeals Training Tutorial

# 2011 Events/Speaking Engagements/Classes

#### **Small Business Seminars (36)**

Topics include: Sales and Use Tax, State Enterprise Zones, How to Start a Business, How to Write a Business Plan, State Payroll Issues, Employee vs. Independent Contractor, Federal Tax Updates, Local Business Resources, Marketing Your Business, Home-based Business, How to Avoid Common Sales and Use Tax Problems, Record Keeping, Small Business Contracting Opportunities, How to Finance a Small Business, etc.

District 1, Chairwoman Yee-0 District 2, Senator Runner-4

4 Cities TBD

District 3, Board Member Steel-12

**Huntington Beach** 

Long Beach

Carlsbad

Westminster

Anaheim

Costa Mesa

Fontana

Riverside

Palos Verdes

Chula Vista

South Riverside County

Imperial

District 4, Vice Chairman Horton-20

Dominguez Hills

Long Beach

18 Cities TBD

#### Tax Seminars for Nonprofit and Faith-based Organizations (10)

Topics include: Sales Tax, Property Tax Exemptions, State Income Tax-FTB, IRS Form 990, Regulations/Rules for Fundraisers, Employment Taxes, Income Tax Exemptions

Presenters Include: BOE SUTD, PTSD, IRS, EDD, FTB, and Attorney General's Office.

District 1, Chairwoman Yee-0 District 2, Senator Runner-0 District 3, Board Member Steel-6

Fullerton

San Diego

Lake Forest

Riverside
San Bernardino
Westminster
District 4, Vice Chairman Horton-4
4 Cities TBD

#### **State Controller's Office Seminars (10)**

Tax Seminars for Small Businesses and Nonprofit and Faith-based Organizations. OSD coordinates speakers for these events.

Presenters Include: BOE SUTD, BOE PSTD, IRS, EDD, FTB, SBDC, SBA

10 Cities TBD

#### Basic Sales and Use Tax and Return Preparation District Office Classes (289)

Classes to teach taxpayers how to prepare a sales and use tax return, report exempt sales, use a resale certificate, determine what is taxable and non-taxable labor, and maintain adequate records.

District 1, Chairwoman Yee-56 District 2, Senator Runner-34 District 3, Board Member Steel-95 District 4, Vice Chairman Horton-104

#### Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Seminars (3)

Free income tax preparation assistance. Certified tax preparers assist taxpayers who make less than \$49,000 prepare income tax returns.

Participating agencies include: BOE, FTB, IRS, EDD, First Five, Healthy Families, California Lifeline, California Low Cost Auto Insurance Program, and South Bay Workforce Investment Board.

District 1, Chairwoman Yee-0
District 2, Senator Runner-0
District 3, Board Member Steel-0
District 4, Vice Chairman Horton-3
Carson
Los Angeles
Long Beach

#### **Eservices Seminars**

Multi-agency seminar provides essential updates for the Tax Professional.

Presenters Include: BOE, FTB, EDD, IRS, Social Security Administration

District 1, Chairwoman Yee-2
Cities (TBD)
District 2, Senator Runner-2
Cities (TBD)
District 3, Board Member Steel-4
Cities (TBD)
District 4, Vice Chairman Horton-3
Cities (TBD)

#### AB71 Cigarette Tax Classes (10)

Interactive classes on its Cigarette and Tobacco Products Licensing program and related tobacco tax laws. The classes are designed to inform, answer questions, and help California sellers of cigarettes and tobacco products understand their requirements and avoid penalties.

District 1, Chairwoman Yee-2

Oakland

San Jose

District 2, Senator Runner-4

Eureka

Stockton

Fresno

Porterville

District 3, Board Member Steel-2

Riverside

El Cajon

District 4, Vice Chairman Horton-2

Culver City

West Covina

#### Non BOE Sponsored Events (15)

These annual events are sponsored and coordinated by nonprofit or community-based organizations throughout the sate. These community partners invite the BOE to participate at these events by conducting workshops, staffing exhibit tables, and or including information in the event programs.

Craigslist Nonprofit Boot Camp-Berkeley

Compass Point Nonprofit Conference-Bay Area

Governor's Small Business Day-Sacramento

Public Purchasing Officers Event-Sacramento

Native American Day-Sacramento

Hispanic Chambers Annual Conference-Orange County

Thai Entrepreneurial Annual Event-Orange County

Biz Con-Anaheim

Filipino Chamber Annual Business Expo

Asian Business Association Business Development Day-Orange County

Asian Expo-Los Angeles

Small Business Economic Summit-Los Angeles

Women's Small Business Expo-L.A.

Small Business Mixer-L.A.

Public Purchasing Officers Event-Pasadena

# **Event History (2010)**

BOE participated in or sponsored 368 events/speaking engagements/classes in 2010, outreaching to 23,000 taxpayers.

- 23 BOE Sponsored Events
- 85 Speaker's Bureau requests
- 7 Taxpayers' Rights Advocate (TRA)
- 16 AB 71 Cigarette classes
- 227 District Office Sales and Use Tax and Return Preparation Classes

#### District 1, Chairwoman Yee (60)

#### Small Business Seminars-0

Nonprofit Seminars-0

# Speaker's Bureau Requests-19

6-Small Business

1-Chinese Delegate

2-Industry Specific

1-Nonprofit

9-Tax Professionals/Practitioners

#### AB71 Cigarette Tax Classes-4

Fairfield

Santa Rosa

San Francisco

San Luis Obispo

#### Basic Sales and Use Tax District Office Classes-37

4-San Francisco

6-Oakland

10-San Jose

5-Salinas

8-Santa Rosa

4-Suisun City

# District 2, Acting Board Member Alby (62)

#### Small Business Seminars-4

Gas Tax Swap Seminar

Shasta Small Business Seminar (co sponsored with State Controller's Office)

Sacramento Small Business Forum

Fresno Small Business Forum

#### Nonprofit Seminars-1

San Bernardino Nonprofit Seminar (co sponsored with Board Member Steel)

#### Speaker's Bureau Requests-20

10-Small Business

2-Industry Specific

1-Nonprofit

7-Tax Professionals/Practitioners

#### AB71 Cigarette Classes-4

Visalia

Lancaster

Bakersfield

Ventura

#### Basic Sales and Use Tax and Return Preparation District Office Classes-33

4-Ventura

4-Bakersfield

10-Sacramento

4-Redding

11-Fresno (6 Basic Sales and Use Tax, 5 Return Preparation)

# District 3, Board Member Steel (97)

#### **Small Business Seminars-8**

Long Beach Small Business Seminar (co sponsored with Board Member Horton)

Palos Verdes Business Seminar

Huntington Beach Gas Tax Swap Seminar

Anaheim Small Business Seminar

Santa Ana Small Business Seminar

Imperial County Small Business Seminar

Westminster Tobacco & Alcohol Business Seminar

San Diego Restaurant Industry Business Seminar

#### Nonprofit Seminars-5

San Bernardino Nonprofit Seminar

Long Beach Nonprofit Seminar

Orange County Nonprofit Seminar

San Diego Nonprofit Seminar

Fullerton Nonprofit Seminar

#### AB71 Cigarette Classes-4

Palm Desert

Riverside

Irvine

San Diego

#### Speaker's Bureau Requests-21

15-Small Business

2-Industry Specific

1-Nonprofit

3-Tax Professional/Practitioners

#### Basic Sales and Use Tax and Return Preparation District Office Classes-59

17-Irvine (7 Basic Sales and Use Tax, 10 Return Preparation)

23-Riverside (7 Basic Sales and Use Tax, 16 Return Preparation)

2-Rancho Mirage (1 Basic Sales and Use Tax, 1 Return Preparation)

6-San Diego (4 Basic Sales and Use Tax, 2 Return Preparation)

11-San Marcos (Basic Sales and Use Tax)

#### District 4, Vice Chairman Horton (133)

#### **Small Business Seminars**-3

Long Beach Small Business Seminar Los Angeles Small Business Seminar Connecting Women to Power-Global Economy Seminar

# Nonprofit Seminars-2

Los Angeles Nonprofit Seminar Long Beach Nonprofit Seminar (co sponsored with Board Member Steel)

#### Career Day-1

CSU Dominguez Hills Career Pathways Symposium

#### Speaker's Bureau Requests-25

16-Small Business
1-Industry Specific
1-Career Day
7-Tax Professionals/Practitioners

#### AB71 Cigarette Tax Classes-4

West Covina Culver City Van Nuys Norwalk

#### Basic Sales and Use Tax and Return Preparation District Office Classes-98

29-Norwalk (15 Basic Sales and Use Tax, 14 Return Preparation) 21-Van Nuys (11 Basic Sales and Use Tax, 10 Return Preparation)

32-West Covina (16 Basic Sales and Use Tax, 16 Return Preparation)

16 Culver City (8 Basic Sales and Use Tax, 8 Return Preparation)

#### **Taxpayers' Rights Advocate Office (7)**

Governor's Conference/Small Business & Entrepreneurship II Metro Business Expo California Small Business Day 2010 Annual Income Tax Seminar-State Bar Association Northern California Assessor's Association Albany Law School Meeting and Webcast 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Tax Update Seminar 2010 California Assessor's Association Conference

# **State Controller's Office Seminars-BOE participation (10)**

Chula Vista Veterans Business Seminar Chino Small Business Seminar Los Angeles Small Business Seminar Lemon Grove Small Business Seminar Van Nuys Women's Financial Literacy Seminar Ontario Small Business Seminar

Pomona Chinese Delegate Seminar Riverside Nonprofit Seminar San Bernardino Small Business Seminar Shasta Small Business Seminar

# Non BOE Sponsored Outreach Events (15)

Craigslist Nonprofit Boot camp-Berkeley
Compass Point Nonprofit Conference-Bay Area
Governor's Small Business Day-Sacramento
Public Purchasing Officers Event-Sacramento
Native American Day-Sacramento
Hispanic Chambers Annual Conference-Orange County
Thai Entrepreneurial Annual Event-Orange County
Biz Con-Anaheim
Filipino Chamber Annual Business Expo
Asian Business Association Business Development Day-Orange County

# **External Affairs Department & Outreach Services Division**

# **Deputy Director, External Affairs Department**

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# **Division Manager, Outreach Services Division**

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Event Type	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
2010	10		70 00		
Small Business Seminar	0	5	8	3 2 2	
Tax Seminar for Nonprofits	0	0	5		
State Controller's Seminars	0	4	4		
Speaker's Bureau Request	19	20	21	25	
AB71 Class	4	4	4	4	
Basic Sales and Use Tax Class	37	33	59	98	
VITA Assistance Day	0	0	0	3	
Career Day	0	0	0	1	
2010 CY Total *Total represents events in each d	60	66	101	138	

(4			District 4	
		27 30		
0	4	12	20 4	
0	0	6		
2	2	3	3 25	
25	25	25		
2	4	2	2 104 3 1	
56	34	95 0		
0	0			
0	0	0		
2	2	4	3	
87	71	147	165	
	0 2 25 2 56 0 0 2	0 0 2 2 2 25 25 2 4 56 34 0 0 0 0 2 2 87 71	0 0 6 2 2 3 25 25 25 2 4 2 56 34 95 0 0 0 0 0 2 2 4	

# Board Sponsored Events (by calendar year)\*

		_	ost per v/o OSD		_	Cost per t w/OSD			
Calendar Year	# of Events	Salaries**		Total	Sala	aries**	Total		
2009	14	\$	6,989	\$ 97,846	\$	32,078	\$ 449,092		
2010	23	\$	4,980	\$ 114,540	\$	17,026	\$ 391,598		
2011	46	\$	3,735	\$ 171,810	\$	10,155	\$ 467,130		

# OSD efficiencies that have allowed cost per event reduction of approximately 50%:

Reduced postage (email)

Reduced Travel (1 person versus 4)

Reduced Printing (# of invites, eliminated posters and flyers)

Reduced handouts/publications (new pub CD)

Reduced Shipping

Streamlined Event Registration (online & new database)

Streamlined Event Agendas

Community Partner Venues (no cost)

**Outreach Listserv** 



Outreach Services Division (by fiscal year)		FY 09/10 FY 10/11		FY 11/12				
OSD Salaries		\$	291,974	,	\$ 284,713		\$	291,974
Actual/Projected Expenditures		\$	320,230	;	\$ 272,366		\$	320,415
Surplus/Deficit	\$		(28,256)	;	\$ 12,347		\$	(28,441)
OPERATING EXPENSES		\$	100,000	;	\$ 100,000		\$	100,000
Actual/Projected Expenditures		\$	98,500	;	\$ 99,500		\$	99,999
Surplus/Deficit		\$	1,500	;	\$ 500		\$	1.00
	ı					1		
OSD Salaries and OE		\$	391,974	;	\$ 384,713		\$	391,974
Actual/Projected Expenditures		\$	418,730	,	\$ 371,866		\$	420,415
Surplus/Deficit***	\$		(26,756)	;	\$ 12,847		\$	(28,441)

<sup>\*</sup>Board sponsored events include Small Business Fairs and Tax Seminars for Nonprofit Organizations

<sup>\*\*</sup>Costs include OSD Staff, travel, in-house printing, postage, venue costs, and BOE program resources

<sup>\*\*\*2010/11</sup> projected surplus due to vacancies